

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 6-130 are rejected. Claims 1, 48, and 93 have been amended. Claims 25, 70, and 108 have been canceled. Claims 1-4, 6-24, 26-69, 71-107, and 109-130 are presently pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The basis for the amendment of claim 1 is found in claim 25 as originally filed. The basis for the amendment of claim 48 is found in claim 70 as previously presented. The basis for the amendment of claim 93 is found in previously presented claim 108.

Rejection Of Claims 1-4 and 6-130 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a):

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-4 and 6-130 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marietti et al., U.S. Pre Grant Publication 2003/0031842 in view of Bourdelais et al., U.S. Pre Grant Publication 2004/0123962, indicating that Marietti's examples 1-3 discloses supports with patterns of thin film transparent coatings of metal or semiconductive material, the conductive patterns are anti-static patterns, the figures in the reference disclose that the patterned coverage can be a design, logo or line, the coatings have various thicknesses, and, although Marietti does not disclose the polymers used in the article, Bourdelais discloses articles comprising supports, patterns of conductive channels and optional imaging layers, and also discloses that the channels comprise conductive layers wherein the conductive layer are polymers such as poly ether sulfone.

Marietti is directed to a transparent article having a visually observable contrast between coatings deposited over a substrate or between coatings deposited over a substrate and uncoated surfaces of the substrate, to provide a patterned surface. One of the coatings exhibits a reflected color and a differing transmitted color, at least one of which differs from the reflected color or transmitted color of the other coating(s) or the uncoated surface of the substrate. The invention is also directed to methods of making the articles.

Applicants were unable to locate U.S. Pre Grant Publication 2004/0123962 to Bourdelais. However, Bourdelais 2004/0213962 discloses an article comprising a polymer layer containing a plurality of integral polymer

conduit channels that contain at least two layers with at least one comprising a conductive material and the other serving a function beyond protection.

The present invention relates to an article comprising a substrate having deposited on the surface thereof at least one antistatic layer, wherein said antistatic layer of conductive material and has a resistivity of between 10^{13} and 10^7 ohms/sq. The antistatic layer comprises areas of patterned coverage in the form of a graphic design and form a continuous interconnected conductive pathway, and wherein said patterned coverage comprise. The present invention relates to a substrate comprising a core that has adhered thereto at least one flange layer having thereon at least one of the inventive antistatic layers. The present invention also relates to an article having the inventive antistatic layer where the graphic design comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of at least one line, at least one dot, a grid, at least one character, and at least one logo.

To establish a prima facie case of obviousness requires, first, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves, or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art references (or references when combines) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

Marietti fails to disclose interconnected antistatic layers with a resistivity of between 10^{13} and 10^7 Ohms/sq. Without this interconnection, the patterns of Marietti, although capable of conducting, would not function to conduct the accumulated charge in an imaging element along the full area of the element and away from areas of the imaging element sensitive to exposure to electrical discharge, especially in the form of light. Without removal of the charge from imageable areas, the light sensitive areas could be exposed by accumulated discharge in the location of the pattern. Unintentionally exposed areas are considered a bad feature in imaging elements. In addition, Marietti fails to mention a conductivity range of resistivity of between 10^{13} and 10^7 Ohms/sq. as presently amended, indicative of an antistatic material. Bourdelais fails to disclose interconnected, surface-deposited antistatic layers with a resistivity of between 10^{13} and 10^7 Ohms/sq. In addition, Bourdelais discloses a conductive material in a channel in the support. The present claim is directed to a coating on

the surface ("substrate having thereon") of the support or substrate. No combination of the references produces a support bearing a surface coating of interconnected, antistatic graphic designs.

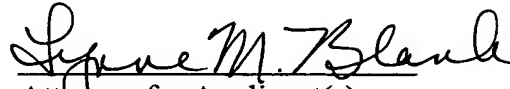
The references fail to provide a likelihood of success. Neither Bourdelais nor Marietti teach antistatic layers in general or antistatic layers, which are defined by a conductivity range of resistivity of between 10^{13} and 10^7 Ohms/sq. The materials disclosed in Marietti at [0036] include silica, alumina and titanium dioxide, materials which are not conductive, as well as metal oxides, which are too conductive to function as antistatic agents and have a conductivity range of resistivity of between 10^{13} and 10^7 Ohms/sq. The materials disclosed in Bourdelais [0059] have a resistivity that is too low to use as an antistatic agent, well below the conductivity range of resistivity of between 10^{13} and 10^7 Ohms/sq. The references also fail to teach the need to interconnect the graphic design to conduct the accumulated charge in an imaging element along the full area of the element and away from areas of the imaging element sensitive to exposure to electrical discharge. In addition, interconnection of the patterned areas allows the use of less material to produce a functioning antistatic layer.

The references fail to suggest all of the limitations of the present claims. The references fail to mention a surface-deposited, antistatic layer, wherein the antistatic layer of conductive material and has a resistivity of between 10^{13} and 10^7 ohms/sq and comprises areas of patterned coverage in the form of a graphic design which forms a continuous interconnected conductive pathway.

Since Marietti and Bourdelais, alone or in combination, fail to suggest the modification necessary to produce the present claims, fail to provide any likelihood of success and fail to disclose all of the present claim limitations required to produce a graphic design or logo, which, when interconnected and containing antistatic materials, serve as the antistatic layer, the Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

It is believed that the foregoing is a complete response to the Office Action and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue is therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.